Remarks

Upon entry of the instant amendment claims 1-17 are pending. Claims 1-17 stand

rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Duran, U.S. Patent No. 6,688,780.

Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to more clearly and particularly point out the instant

invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in

condition for allowance.

In response to the Examiner's objection to the claims, claims 1 and 9 have been

amended to recite, inter alia, "central housing formed of a unitary piece of metal." Support

for the claim amendment is found on page 3, line 15 of Applicants' specification.

In contrast, Duran does not teach, suggest or imply a central housing made of a

unitary piece of metal. Furthermore, Duran explicitly teaches away from such a

configuration. See Duran, col. 5, lines 46-47.

In light of the above claim amendments d remarks, Applicants respectfully request the

Examiner withdraw his objections to the application.

Respectfully submitted, MOLEX MOORPORATED

Date: 11-3-2004

By:

Romi N. Bose (Reg. No. 43,322)

Attorney of Record

MOLEX INCORPORATED

2222 Wellington Court

Lisle, Illinois 60532

Tel.: (630) 527-4419

Fax: (630) 416-4962

RNB/am **Enclosures**

5